The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Inspection of TIFR

3954. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee of foreign experts visited and examined the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) during the month of February, 1997.

(b) if so, the reasons for permitting the inspection;

(c) the details of the recommendations and suggestions made by the above Committee; and

(d) the details of recommendations adopted by the Government and reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), the premier scientific research institution in the fields of physics, Mathematics and allied sciences, is an autonomous institution supported by the Department of Atomic Energy. TIFR completed fifty years of research activities in 1995-96. As a sequel to the TIFR's Golden Jubilee, its Council for Management decided to invite a group of eminent scientists to review TIFR's achievements and make recommendations on, inter alia, international collaboration with other institutions, scope for greater purposeful interaction with industry in selected areas and the steps needed to enable the Institute to attract creative talent in the light of increasing specialisation of research.

A Committee consisting of the following experts visited and reviewed the working of TIFR during 13-18 January 1997

(i) Prof. Lord Porter, OM, FRS, Nobel Laureate, Chairman, Centre for Petromolecular Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Imperial College, London, UK.

(ii) Prof. D. Mumford, Department of Mathematics, Harvard University, USA.

(iii) Prof. Sir Arnold Welfendale, FRS, Department of Physics, University of Durbam Science Laboratories, UK.

(iv) Prof. B.V. Sreekantan, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore and Former Director, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

Prof. S. Brennex, FRS was prevented by illness from attending as a member of the Committee but gave written evidence.

(c) and (d) The above mentioned Committee has just submitted its report to the Chairman of TIFR's Council of Management. This report is due for consideration by the TIFR's Council of Management at its next meeting to be held in April 1997. It will be possible for the Government to take decisions on the recommendations of the Committee only after TIFR's Council of Management has considered the report, and on matters referred to it.

Oil Exploration

3955. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantity of resources of oil and natural gas in Gujarat;

(b) the areas in the State where these resources are located; and

(c) the progress made in exploration so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) State of Gujarat encompasses onland part of three sedimentary basins viz., Cambay, Kutch and Saurashtra. The prognosticated resources of the onland part of these basins are 2260 MMT of oil + oil equivalent of gas (O+OEG) in the onland.

(b) Resources in Cambay basin are located in the districts of Sabarkantha, Banas Kantha, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Gandhi Nagar, Kheda, Vadodara, Baruch & Surat.

The resources in Saurashtra are located close to the Coastal areas in the districts of Jamnagar, Junggarh and Bhavnagar and in Kutch basin in Kutch districts.

(c) As on 1.1.97 a total of 225 structures (219 in Cambay, 5 in Kutch and 1 in Saurashtra) have been probed by drilling of which 83 are hydrocarbon bearing and fall in the Cambay basin.

Service Heads Accounts to the Courts

3956. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its order dated February 13, 1997 dealing with accountability of the

bureaucracy to the competent court in "Judicial review" for the result of an action done or decision taken in a given case-held that "the head of the department/designate officer is ultimately responsible and accountable to the court" for the action taken;

(b) whether the Government have considered the judgement of the Supreme Court; and

(c) if so, whether any directive has been issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) By its order of February 13, 1997 the Supreme Court dismissed a Special Leave Petition by the State of Bihar against the order of the Patna High Court whereunder the High Court had imposed costs personally against the respondent for non-compliance of the order of the High Court within the period of two months specified by the High Court. In disposing of the above case the Supreme Court had observed, inter-alia, that " the bureaucracy is also accountable for the acts done in accordance with the rules when judicial review is called to be exercised by the Courts. The hierarchical responsibility for the decision is their in-built discipline. But the head of the Department/designated officer is ultimately responsible and accountable to the Court for the result of the action done or decision taken

(b) Government are aware of this judgement.

(c) No, Sir.

Fruit based Industries

3957. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fruits based food processing industries in the country, State-wise;

(b) the scheme formulated by the Union Government to encourage the fruit processing industry in future; and

(c) the norms fixed by the Government to set up a food processing industry in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) The total number of fruit and vegetable based food processing industries licensed under the Fruit Products Order as on 1st Jan., 1997 was 4674. The State-wise data is not maintained because a manufacturer under one address can have relabelling facilities in various States.

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated various plan schemes for implementation during the 8th Plan period for the development of fruit & vegetable processing industries, the details of which are given in the attached Statement. Similar schemes are proposed to be continued in the 9th Five Year Plan.

(c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any food processing unit directly in any State.

Statement

Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for Implementation during the Eight Plan Period

S.No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Area
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable Processing facilities.
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.
6.	Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
7.	Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
8.	Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (From 1993-94).

[Translation]

Inclusion of Block

3958. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any proposals to the Union Government seeking inclusion of some more Blocks under employment Assurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the number of such Blocks; and

(c) the number of Blocks of Sabhal parliamentary Constituency proposed to be included under this Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.